MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Seven petitions were received by the Government—three in 1921 and four in 1925-26—and sent to the department for enquiry. The earliest of them is dated the 5th April 1921.

(*c*) Enquiries were made in 1921 and the Government in their Dis. No. 1462/21/G. A., dated the 13th September 1921, decided that a dispensary at Puttenchira was unnecessary. On receipt of new petitions in 1925 and 1926, a fresh enquiry has been ordered and the report of the Administrative Board, Medical Services, is awaited.

Removal of the Excise Inspector's Office, Alwaye.

187. **MR. N. V. JOSEPH** (*Parur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have received from the Alwaye Municipality any communication regarding the removal of the Alwaye Excise Inspector's office building which projects into the street and thus obstructs traffic in the town;

(*b*) whether they have addressed the Excise Commissioner about the same and whether they have received any report on it from the latter; and

(*c*) whether they will be pleased to grant the request of the Alwaye Municipality at an early date?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The President of the Alwaye Municipal Council has sent a letter requesting the Government to arrange for the removal of the office.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The Government have looked into the matter and found that the Excise Inspector's office should continue where it is until funds become available for constructing a new building.

Minor Irrigation Works in the Neyyattinkara Taluk.

188. **MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI** (*Neyyattinkara*): Will the Government be pleased to state the amount spent under "Minor Irrigation Works" in the Neyyattinkara taluk during 1101 till the end of Mithunam and the budgeted allotment under the said item for 1101?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Rs. 19,691 and Rs. 24,658, respectively.

Statement, by castes, of Appointments in the English Branch of the Education Department.

189. **MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN** (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to state the number of Brahmins, Nairs, Catholic Christians, other Christians, Ezhavas, Mahomedans and members of other castes holding appointments, temporary and permanent, in the English Branch of the Education Department?

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MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

Brahmins	...	396
Nairs	...	126
Catholic Christians	...	24
Other Christians	...	184
Ezhavas	...	9
Mahomedans	...	15
Other castes	...	77

Theft in the Stamp Manufactory.

190. **MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a theft of some paper was committed in the Stamp Manufactory by the Store-keeper, Mr. K. Parameswaran Pillai;

(*b*) if the answer is in the affirmative, whether they have made any enquiries about it; and

(*c*) if the answer to part (*b*) is in the negative, whether they will enquire into this and other irregularities in that institution that have been brought to the notice of this House for the last two years?

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) and (*c*) These do not arise in view of the answer to part (*a*). No irregularities in the Stamp Manufactory have been brought to the notice of the Government.

Mr. Chacko, Superintendent, Stamp Manufactory.

191. **MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil*): (1) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a complete list of all the seniors of Mr. Chacko, Superintendent, Stamp Manufactory, both in the Revenue Department and in the Account Office?

(2) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the claims of all the seniors of Mr. Chacko were duly considered when he was made provisional on Rs. 170 from the 3rd Edavam 1101?

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*):

(1) As regards the Land Revenue Department, the member is referred to the Civil List for information. As between Mr. Chacko and the officers of the Account Department, there is no question of seniority as he has no lien on the Account Department.

(2) The question of seniority arises only in regard to promotions within one and the same department.

Water Scarcity in the Nattalam Pakuthi.

192. **MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI** (*Kalkulam cum Vilavankod*):

(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are aware of the scarcity of drinking water experienced by the inhabitants of the Nattalam *pakuthi*?

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